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CLASS Notes

July 29, 2011

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CLASS *notes*

COLLEGE OF
LIBERAL ARTS &
SOCIAL SCIENCES



July 29, 2011

Welcome to Georgia Southern University / College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences

Greetings!

During the fall semester, the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences will re-create its former college-wide publication under a new name, *CLASS Connect*. Twice a year, alumni and friends will receive this hands-on publication filled with news that reflects the accomplishments of our students and faculty, news about the college, and news about the events that will take place in the coming months. Most importantly, we want to share good news about our alumni, and that's where we need your help.

I'm asking you to take a moment to send a brief e-mail that tells us your latest good news. Tell us about job placements or promotions, wedding or birth announcements, publications, achievements, awards, and honors-- we want to hear it all! You can complete the online [online form](#), or just send your news to class@georgiasouthern.edu.

Some of you may wonder why, in this era of technology, we're creating a printed publication. We're compiling the *CLASS Connect* as a hands-on way of reaching out to our alumni and as a visible means of sharing our growing reputation in higher education. With ten departments, four centers, and a growing reputation in many of our programs, the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences plays a major role in every Georgia Southern graduate's success. With a world-class faculty, with challenging academic programs, and with great alumni, we have a lot to be proud of and to share with our friends and alumni. *CLASS Connect* will help us do that.

In departmental news, we have some major accomplishments to share this month. In the Department of Writing and Linguistics, **Lisa Costello**, Ph.D., has earned the Dorothy Smith Golden Award for Teaching Excellence in 2011. Dr. Costello teaches first-year writing, minority rhetorics, and introduction to writing studies. One of her former students says, "Dr. Costello's combination of professionalism, intellect, and care for her students stands out in a classification all her own." The Golden Award, named for a Georgia Southern University faculty member who excelled in teaching and service to her students, recognizes an excellent teacher whose practices are shaped by research and scholarship in his or her discipline. The award, given by the Golden family, not only recognizes consistently superior performance, but also rewards continuous and measurable improvement as a teacher.

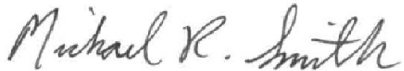
Also from Writing and Linguistics, Fulbright scholar **Lori Amy**, Ph.D., has received a grant from the American Council of Learned Societies Committee on East European Studies to present her paper, "NGOs and Civil Society in Albania: Where We've Been, Where We Are, Where We're

Going," at the 6th European Consortium for Political Research General Conference to be held next month at the University of Iceland. Dr. Amy is the author of a recent book, "The Wars We Inherit."

From the Department of Foreign Languages, Modern Languages major [Jennifer Keyser](#) has been awarded a prestigious DAAD scholarship, and will spend the 2011-2012 academic year pursuing her studies at the University of Kassel in Germany. DAAD is also known as Germany's Academic Exchange Service.

We look forward to seeing you at many of our events scheduled for this upcoming academic year. Be sure to check the University calendar for the latest updates.

Warm Regards,



Michael R. Smith, Dean

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Music Travels Abroad

by Dr. Carolyn J. Bryan

On May 30, 65 students, faculty, friends, and family travelers set out on Music International Studies' fourth European concert tour and academic residency. The participating students represented the University's Southern Chorale, Symphonic Wind Ensemble, University Singers, and Wind Symphony, and the group included music majors, non-majors, and both undergraduate and graduate students.

During the week prior to departure, the ensembles rehearsed daily, and the students and faculty attended cultural classes. Guest speakers discussed contemporary life in Europe, history, art and architecture, cultural differences, intra-city transportation, currency, and language basics.

The first stop was Vienna, the City of Music. In addition to the guided tour of the Ringstrasse, city center, and Stephansdom, many students visited the Musikverein (home of the Vienna Philharmonic) and the renowned Staatsoper, while others heard the VPO at the Schönbrunn



Students and faculty at Belvedere Palace, Vienna, Austria

Palace and visited the graves of famous composers in the Zentralfriedhof.

The Austrian concert took place in the village of Katzelsdorf where the ensembles shared a concert with the Jugendblasmusik, toured the facilities of the Volkshule, and learned about their music programs. For many participants, a highlight of the trip was the post-concert dinner featuring a GSU jazz combo and women's vocal jazz group.

Members of the GSU and Katzelsdorf groups enjoyed the music and camaraderie, particularly when the local students joined with the combo.



The choir in the Church of Simon and Judah, Prague

En route to Budapest, the group visited the Lazar Brothers Riding School for a traditional Hungarian meal, folk music and dancing, and an amazing equestrian display. In the capitol, many students attended a performance of the Hungarian State Folk Ensemble and visited the Holocaust Memorial Center and Dohanyi Street Synagogue. Others chose to explore the city's famous thermal baths and climbed Gellért Hill for beautiful views of the Danube. Our Hungarian concert was shared with the Youth Wind Orchestra and Choir of Pomaz.

The trip continued in the magnificent Czech city of Prague where excursions included a performance by the Czech State Opera and a tour of the Holocaust ghetto Terezin. The

ensembles presented their final concert before a capacity audience in the beautiful Church of Simon and Judah. The tour concluded with a visit to the spa town Karlovy Vary and a farewell dinner at the historic Posthof.

The 29 students participating in the academic residency continued on for an afternoon in Dresden and a visit to Leipzig, including concerts in the Thomaskirche where J.S. Bach served as music director in the 1700s. Three days in Salzburg

provided opportunities to visit the Mozart family homes, attend a lecture by Mozart scholar Alois Aigner, and hike in the surrounding mountains. The group stayed for a week of classes at the Carinthische Musikakademie in Ossiach, Austria; they were the first American group to visit this recently restored monastery. Prior to returning to the US, the faculty and students took a day trip to Venice where they visited the renowned Basilica of San Marco.

The program participants would like to express their thanks to Dean Mike Smith and Vice-President Teresa Thompson as well as the Center for International Studies and the Honors Program for funding student scholarships and service awards. Please visit our [GSU Music International Facebook page](#) to see pictures from the trip, including the winners of our photo contest.



Students at farewell dinner, Posthof, Karlovy Vary



Students gather in St. Mark's Square, Venice

Upcoming CLASS Events

Theatre

August 27

24-Hour Play Festival:

Wham! Bam! Play! Slam!

7:30pm

Black Box Theatre

Admission is free

Full fall schedule coming soon!

[Complete Calendar of CLASS Events](#)

Give to CLASS

The College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences aspires to be nationally recognized for its superior and innovative educational experiences across the humanities, the social sciences, and the arts. Our goal is to provide effective programs that are responsive to the needs of the region and to allow all members of the college—faculty, staff, and students—to serve together to enhance quality of life. If you would like to support CLASS in meeting these goals, please visit our [annual campaign website](#).

Find all the details about the [Eagle Nation on Parade](#) public art project on our [website](#). Contact Sue Bunning at sbunning@georgiasouthern.edu for more information.

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Stay connected by following our [CLASS Facebook page](#).

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